



SOCCER ACTION

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• The Australian squad that met England, from left, standing: Frank Arok (coach), Peter van Rijn (massur), Arno Bertogna, Mike O'Shea, David Mitchell, Peter Stone, Terry Greedy, Peter Katholos, Kim Wishart, Mark Stankovic, Tony Boggi (assistant coach), Mike Urukalo (goalkeeper), Andrew Lederer (team manager).
Front row: David Ratcliffe, John Kosmina (captain), Steve O'Connor, Phil O'Connor, Jim Cant, Joe Watson, Graham Jennings, Alan Davidson, Charlie Yankos, Ken Murphy. Picture by LES SHORROCK.

ATTILA ABONYI

Our greatest series but changes are under way

By LAURIE SCHWAB

Australia completed its greatest ever achievement in a series against a European national team by drawing 1-1 in the third match against England at Olympic Park last Sunday.

And we saw some of the finest Soccerroo performances in memory from goalkeeper Terry Greedy, striker Phil O'Connor, right back Alan Davidson and sweeper Charlie Yankos.

The series, quite rightly, was described by Frank Arok (St George) as the greatest achievement of his coaching career. He picked the players, he formulated the tactics and he injected his own fanatical determination into his gallant warriors.

Australia drew twice with England and lost the other game 0-1 through a goal which, as the slow-motion television replays, should not have been allowed.

It was back in 1980 that Australia drew a three-match series against Greece, but the results against England were more meritorious because England was a stronger team of a much more awesome reputation.

In Australia's other international series against European nations, we lost decisively to Northern Ireland (1980), Czechoslovakia (1980), Greece (1978), USSR (1975), Bulgaria (1973) and Scotland (1967).

Attempts were made throughout the series to belittle Australia's performances and results.

First, Australia was accused of unreasonable defensiveness.

Then it was claimed England was inadequate because players like Peter Withe, Gary Mabbutt, Bryan Robson and Steve Coppell were missing.

What rubbish!

Firstly, I'll take bets that of the new players in this squad, Danny Thomas and John Barnes at least, will become established England internationals.

Remember 1980, when Australia lost 1-2 to England in Sydney, and that team included Bryan Robson who was to become the England captain, not to mention newcomers Terry Butcher and Russell Osman who are regulars now, and Paul Mariner who played in the World Cup last year?

Whatever players are in-

Australia's results in series against European national teams:

v. SCOTLAND (1967): 0-1, 1-2, 0-2.
v. GREECE (1969): 1-0, 2-2, 0-2.
v. BULGARIA (1973): 2-3, 1-3, 0-2.
v. USSR (1975): 0-0, 0-3, 1-2, 0-0, 2-3, 1-1.
v. GREECE (1978): 1-2, 0-1, 1-1.
v. NORTHERN IRELAND (1980): 1-2, 1-1, 1-2.
v. CZECHOSLOVAKIA (1980): 0-4, 0-5, 2-2.
v. ENGLAND (1980): 1-2.
v. ENGLAND (1983): 0-0, 0-1, 1-1.

cluded in 'A' England side are worth their salt.

Who was complaining that the Australian team did not include Steve Blair, Martyn Crook, Tony Henderson, Gary Bryne, George Christopoulos and Gary Cole — all established internationals?

The England stars played their hearts out, particularly in that last match in England. They produced some magic moments, especially during a whirlwind beginning during which they would have had the match sewn up had it not been for Greedy, Yankos and the rest of the defence.

England manager Bobby Robson, to his credit, would make no excuses for his team. They had attacked, they had tried their damndest to score, but the Australians had maintained the pace of their game, their

commitment and their discipline, Robson said.

So let's look at Australia's performances on their own merits and on that basis they will live in our soccer history. Sure, as 11 men against 11, not all of the Australians were technically as proficient as their England counterparts but they made up for it with the qualities Robson listed.

We proved we can get results against the very best, so by maintaining this conscientious attitude surely we can get results in the 1985 World Cup qualifying rounds.

But it's time now for stability. Whatever coach Les Scheinflug decides to do with the squad, he must do quickly and we must stick with a nucleus of players throughout all matches in the next two years.

He has said he will make changes. Youth players Tommy McCulloch, David Lowe, perhaps Joe Rizzotto, Jim Patikas and Tony Dakos may be tried out in the senior squad. Steve Blair probably will return, and perhaps the older players who met England will be omitted.

On the other hand, the fact that Joe Watson, Phil O'Connor and a few others may not have youth on their side, did not matter at all against England.

That's something Scheinflug will have to think about long and hard.

VS. RASIC



Attila Abonyi

Attila Abonyi, all-time top scorer of the Soccerroos, has replaced George Murray as coach of Canberra Arrows.

Abonyi will lead Canberra at Middle Park on Sunday against South Melbourne Hellas, led by Rale Rasic who coached Abonyi in the national team from 1970 until 1974, including the World Cup finals in West Germany.

Abonyi formerly was player-coach of Sydney Croatia, and also had charge of Riverwood in the NSW State League.

He scored a total of 36 goals in 88 matches for Australia. In full 'A' internationals, his record is 58 games and 25 goals.

He played for St George Budapest and Melbourne-Hungaria, and beat one of his former St George team mates, Adrian Alston, to the Canberra job.

George Murray, the man who made way for Abonyi, was made the scapegoat for a spate of injuries which deprived Canberra of star players George Christopoulos, Paul Ontong, Tony Brennan and Frank Farina.

Despite their absence, Canberra was the highest scoring team in the NSL until just before the break for the England-Australia series.

"I'm very bitter about the timing of the committee's decision," Murray said. "I was back home in Scotland for Christmas, and if the club

hadn't wanted me, I would have stayed there."

Murray said the sacking had not been totally unexpected, as the committee had not been happy with results over the past season and a half.

The former Aberdeen player-coach said he would "not lose sleep" over the sacking. "It's a blessing in disguise, I suppose, because I haven't felt that I've had backing from the people at the top."

He said the move to sack him came from Downer Olympic, which virtually took over Canberra last year. He added that the Arrows' president, Charlie Perkins, had opposed him too.

"I just thought that these people appreciated the game enough to understand our problems."

"We had key players out through injury all the time. Christopoulos, for example, played only one game fully fit and one game 70 per cent fit, yet we're still only four points outside the top four."

"And had we not made a few horrific mistakes on the field,

we would be four or five points better off right now. Against Newcastle, for example, Duncan Cole miskicked, and that resulted in a goal against us. Against Marconi, Terry Byrne got involved in a back-pass mix-up, and against Adelaide City we were leading 2-1 with 30 seconds to go, before we drew 2-2."

"We spent almost nothing building this team — all we had to pay was \$1500 to Belconnen for Marko Perinovic. Yet the big-spending clubs, South Melbourne and Sydney Olympic, overtook us only two weeks ago."

"One of the directors, Con Kourpanidis, appreciated the problems we faced. He was at all the games, all the training sessions, and he heard everything that was said to the players. It speaks volumes that he resigned over my sacking, although I believe he'd been persuaded to go back now."

Murray said Canberra never adequately covered the loss of Mike, John and Rob O'Shea who returned to St George at the start of last year. Duncan Cole returned only recently after a season's absence, and after Isaac Farrell and Richard Wilson were sold to Macedonia, to help get the club out of financial difficulties, Canberra was left sadly understaffed.

However, Murray is proud of his achievement in having blooded young players Angelo Ambrosino, John Moutsopoulos, Andrew Young, Jim Murray and Perinovic. Ambrosino returned a few weeks ago after spending the summer in Italy.

Murray said he never again would put his career and the welfare of his family on the line by taking a full-time job in Australian soccer.

"In the meantime, I hope to become involved in a business venture in the next week or two. It will have nothing to do with football."

— LAURIE SCHWAB

YANKOS FOR EUROPE?

Charlie Yankos (pictured, left) smiled mischievously when asked how it felt to be hailed as Australia's new Peter Wilson.

"If they'd compare me with Franz Beckenbauer, it would be fair enough," he joked.

"Seriously, though, it's an honor of course, but I'm different to Wilson. I just want to be myself."

Yankos, 22 last month the second youngest player in the squad — David Mitchell is 21 — earned enthusiastic praise for the way he has filled the sweeper position in which Wilson excelled for eight years.

With 62 internationals, Wilson remains Australia's most capped player. He played his club soccer with Salford United, Mar-

coni, Western Suburbs and was player-coach of APIA last year.

Yankos, who made his international debut against England in the scoreless draw in Sydney last week, said the series was not as hard as he had expected.

"I had expected some incredible performances against us, but we found that the English players are only human," the Heidelberg star said.

Asked whether he felt he now had established himself as a long-term international, he said:

"It's too early to say. Frank Arok has shown confidence in me, but now it's up to Les Scheinflug, whom I don't know."

"Anyway, I've got a long way to go before I establish myself the way others have — Alan Davidson and Peter Katholos, for example."

Yankos is on contract to Heidelberg until November. He has been with the club since the age of 16, but wants eventually to try his luck in England or West Germany.

He noticed the England players were more aware of him after his performance in Sydney. In the match in Brisbane, England played the ball away from Yankos as much as possible.

"The hardest aspect was defending against their set plays," he said. "They create dangerous spaces, and they're so tall and so quick. I had to cover the spaces created and I had to gauge where the ball was going to go. I think I did it OK."

Asked whether he became flustered by the boos from the Sydney crowd as he passed the ball back to Terry Greedy repeatedly during the second half, he said with a smile: "No, not at all. I'm used to it at Heidelberg. The crowd never worries me."

He said his most worrying moment had been in Sydney, when England's Gordon Cowans broke away, and Yankos had to stop him on the edge of the box with a sliding tackle from behind.



TREDINNICK NEXT FOR SOCCEROOS?

Newcastle defender Howard Tredinnick should be the next former Australian youth team player to win a spot in the full national team.

The opinion comes from Newcastle KB coach Ken Kaiser, one of the most positive performers in National Soccer League ranks.

Kaiser said: "Howard's improvement at left back this year has been one of the features in our rise in the competition."

"People used to say Tredinnick could be passed easily on his right. No player is faultless but that certainly isn't a weakness now."

Kaiser added that Australian coach Les Scheinflug had made a tentative enquiry about the player's availability for Australia prior to leaving on the Mexico trip.

Tredinnick was one of the better players in the 1981 Australian youth team. He was in the side that gained a 2-1 win over then world youth champions Argentina in Sydney.

Willie Wallace, the former Scottish international winger who is now coach of Wollongong, is another astute judge who fully supports Kaiser's assessment of Tredinnick.

As it is, reserve striker David Mitchell is the only 1981 Australian youth player to

make the Australian squad for the England games.

Three players from the 1979 group who were knocked out of the world youth championships in Paraguay appeared for Australia against England.

They are right back Alan Davidson, left back Graham Jennings and striker Peter Katholos. Eddie Krncevic, now playing in the Yugoslav First Division, surely would have won a place.

Sydney Olympic and former Scotland coach Tommy Docherty is convinced this year's youth team could become Australia's 1986 World Cup side.

"They only need to be kept together under Scheinflug and they will turn out a top side," Docherty said.

Frank Arok, acting national coach for the three-match series against the Englishmen, has differing views on the manner in which players progress through the ranks.

"There is no certainty that youth internationals will reach the Australian team," he declared.

"Players advance at different rates. The Australian youth team is a good outfit but my club St George had no trouble in soundly beating them in the trial just before they left for South America."

The experience gained from examining the progress of the 1979 and 1981 National youth players so far supports Arok's contention.

Players from 1979 such as Greg Woodhouse, Theo Selemidis, George Christopoulos, Steve Hogg, Peter Raskopoulos, Peter Tredinnick, Ian Hunter, John Spanos, Peter Wilson, Mike Boogard and Paul Kay are now familiar names with National League clubs.

But winning one of just 11 National team places is a different matter.



Howard Tredinnick

Cole returns against Fawcner, Juventus

Gary Cole, the all-time top scorer in the NSL, may be included in Heidelberg's squad for the big clash with South Melbourne Hellas at the Olympic Village Ground on July 3.

Cole is making a rapid recovery after a serious ankle operation.

He will get a run during a practice match between Heidelberg and Fawcner at Fawcner's Jukes Road ground tonight (Wednesday) at 6.30.

And he'll also be in action for part of a game against Juventus at Olympic Park No. 2 at 6.30 pm on Thursday next week.



Steve Wooddin



Doug Brown



Charlie Egan



Alan Davidson

PLAYER RUMORS LAUGHABLE SAYS RASIC

Steve Wooddin, Doug Brown, Charlie Egan and Alan Davidson are safe at South Melbourne Hellas — despite reports to the contrary last week.

Coach Rale Rasic was fuming over the reports, which he called "laughable and completely and utterly unfounded."

The reports suggested some of the Hellas stars would be offered as swaps for Jim Campbell of Heidelberg, that Woodin and Brown may be sacked and that Davidson may follow if he doesn't improve.

"Davidson is one of the greatest players Australia ever has had and he is a symbol of excellence and stardom to Hellas and to our spectators," Rasic said.

"I rang in Brisbane to assure him of that and I gave assurances of my total support to Woodin, Brown and Egan in front of the other players."

"Sure, Woodin and Brown

were dropped to the State League team, but they are both big enough to take it. They are professionals who realise that life isn't always easy, and both are fighting like crazy to recapture their form and get back into the senior team.

"This type of reporting is upsetting the players and the clubs. It has no basis in truth, and it amazes me anything could write such utter rubbish."

SIR — I am writing this letter to support Charles Perkins in his call for the dismissal of Derek White, the ABC's Director of Sport.

According to a report in "Soccer Action", Mr Perkins wrote to Prime Minister Bob Hawke, on June 1, complaining about the continued discrimination against soccer by the ABC, and rightly so. Mr Perkins is an Aboriginal rights campaigner and soccer supporter from way back, and he knows what the word "discrimination" means to millions of migrants and Aborigines living in Australia.

"The sport of soccer in Australia," wrote Mr Perkins to Mr Hawke, "has the largest following and participation of any football code."

Charlie Perkins has been justly renowned for the provision of "good copy" to the media for decades.

As a player with Pan Hellenic he was a real toughie; as a public servant he has been uncompromising in pushing for a better deal for the Aboriginal people.

As a soccer administrator he has periodically stirred up a hornet's nest with his views of the ASF under Sir Arthur George's tutelage and with his unceasing attempts to establish Canberra as a viable proposition in the NSL. Last week, however, he overstepped the mark in a distasteful and grossly insulting, not to mention inaccurate manner.

Charlie's diatribe against the ABC and its Director of Sporting programs, Derek White, was simply counter-productive. Everyone connected with soccer is aware of the difficulties between the ASF and the ABC and I suggest that intemperate outbursts will only exacerbate the situation.

This is not to preclude other forms of firm and reasoned action. . . .

But why, oh why must soccer always cheapen itself by trying to belittle other sports in its attempts to climb up the Australian sporting ladder of merit?

Describing as Perkins did, basketball as a fourth-rate sport which should not receive the prominence it does on ABC television, is not only unnecessary, but also grossly incorrect.

Australian basketball is ranked fifth in the world presently, on the basis of its results at the world championships in Colombia as recently as last August. I look forward to soccer emulating this feat, but I wonder when that will happen.

Charlie's own "front yard" Canberra, the basketballing Canberrans easily outdraw soccer's Arrows on recent evidence in their respective National League matches.

Why can't we just try to achieve our aims on our merits, instead of trying to run down and denigrate other sports and, indirectly, the many good and able sportsmen and women involved with them?

No wonder soccer folk are often perceived as whingers of

IN FOCUS by PETER SCOTT



the worst kind by the Australian public.

And we know what the ordinary Aussie thinks of whingers, don't we?

Results

Australians really do have to make up their minds right now, whether they want sporting success or sparkling entertainment, at the cost of demoralising defeats.

This comes to my mind in view of the widespread — and quite unjustified — charges levelled at Frank Arok after the series against England.

If a professional, as opposed to a dreamer or a con man, is put in charge of our national teams (and I don't just mean soccer) then we must expect a professional attitude towards his main job — the job of getting results.

He will examine the capabilities of the opposition, assess the strengths and weaknesses of his own charges and plan accordingly.

To suggest that the Soccerroos ought to attempt some sort of a Brazilian football samba against England or comparable teams is nonsense taken to its ultimate.

Our players' real abilities and painful weaknesses are on display month after month in the NSL.

What you see is what you get, whether against England or Brisbane Lions, and we better had accept that painful fact.

Youth team

The youth Soccerroos also performed to their maximum

capacity in Mexico, keeping in mind my foregoing comments about their elders.

They displayed all the usual qualities of strength, speed and good old Aussie determination, as well as flashes of skill.

But, let me admit, we are not overly endowed with the last of the above.

Scottish manager Andy Rox-

burgh's comments might have smacked of sour grapes after we spanked their bottoms in the tune of 2-1, but let us be honest with ourselves; much of what he told us was spot on.

What this said about his own boys, who lost after all, is another matter altogether.

Hakoah

Dare I say it? There are some whiffs of compromise in the air around the Hakoah Club, with regards to the continuing saga of the NSL champions.

There is an off-the-record, invitations-only, hush, hush, nudges, nudges meeting between Hakoah soccer fans and their beta noir, club president Frank Lowy, tonight (Wednesday).

Is it a smokescreen, or is it finally an attempt to take into account views of the club's members?

Remains to be seen . . .

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Watch out for Olympic as National League resumes

Young Marconi no match for Makedonia

Preston Makedonia should cling to top spot on the NSL ladder by beating Marconi at Connor Reserve on Sunday.

Led by player-coach Peter Ollerton, Makedonia has emerged as an outstanding candidate for the NSL championship.

Marconi will be boosted by the return of youth Socceros Joe Rizzotto, Tom McCulloch, Rod Brown and Rene Licata but in Zarko Odzakovic, Zoran Ilioski, George Campbell and Gordon Flavell, Makedonia boasts one of the best balanced

By CRAIG MAC KENZIE

midfield combinations in the league.

Coach Ollerton has shown a strong preference for man-marking as a means of blotting out the potentially dominant players of the opposition and it wouldn't surprise to see Flavell given the task of shackling young McCulloch.

Brown will resume his striking partnership with Mark Jankovics and Ollerton will be well aware of the threat posed by this pair. He may decide to use David Jones and George McMillan to tag the Marconi strikers. If so, Jankovics and Brown will face the full force of the physical strength of an uncompromising Makedonia defence.

With Ilioski and Campbell as the flanking midfielders, getting forward in support of Gary Ward and Claude Luchesi, it's hard to envisage the league leader being toppled.

The pick of two NSL games in Sydney is the local derby at Pratten Park between APIA Leichhardt and Sydney Olympic.

Former APIA star Marshall Soper, would like nothing better than to score against his old team mates and he's the danger man up front for Olympic. His unpredictability and flair can create chances out of nothing, so Arno Bertogna and Bertie Mariani have a tremendous responsibility on their shoulders as they try to



Makedonia stars on the attack, from left: Zarko Odzakovic, Gary Ward and George Campbell.

SATURDAY

NEWCASTLE KB v Footscray JUST at International Sports Centre, 2.30pm. Record so far: Newcastle 5 wins, 2 draws, 3 losses. 12-8 goals.

SUNDAY

BRISBANE CITY v Heidelberg Alexander at Spencer Park, 3pm. Record: Heidelberg 4 wins, 4 draws, 2 losses. 17-18 goals.

Wollongong v ST GEORGE BUDAPEST at Ziemas Park, 3pm. Record: St.G. 1 win, 1 draw, 4-3 goals.

APIA Leichhardt v SYDNEY OLYMPIC at Pratten Park, 3pm. Record: Syd.Oly. 3 wins, 1 draw, 2 losses. 10-7 goals.

PRESTON MAKEDONIA v Marconi-Fairfield at Connor Reserve, 3pm. Record: Marconi 2 wins, 1 draw, 1 loss. 6-5 goals.

WEST ADELAIDE HELLAS v Brisbane Lions at Hindmarsh Stadium, 2.30pm. Record: West Ad. 5 wins, 2 draws, 5 losses. 21-16 goals.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS v Canberra at Middle Park, 3pm. Record: Hellas 5 wins, 6 draws, 1 loss. 18-8 goals.

SYDNEY CITY HAKOAH v Adelaide City Juventus at Sydney Athletic Field, 3pm. Record: Syd. City 7 wins, 2 draws, 3 losses. 27-14 goals.

keep the elusive Olympic striker in check.

Tony Dakos established himself in Mexico with the youth team as the most outstanding central defensive prospect in Australian Soccer and if Olympic manager-coach Tommy Docherty uses the youngster alongside Kiwi international Ricky Herbert, recently returned from the President's Cup tournament, he will present APIA's strike force with a formidable barrier. I'm tipping Olympic to triumph here. I expect this star-studded, Greek-sponsored outfit to gain results more consistently from now on and it's crucial derby clashes like these that must be won if Olympic is to realise its aim of finishing in the top bracket.

Newcastle KB, featuring former England international

Mike Channon, and the return of youth players David Lowe and Ralph Maier, should prove too well-drilled for Footscray J.U.S.T. at the International Sports Centre on Saturday.

J.U.S.T. should have Jamie Paton and Zdravko Lujic back from injury. They were unable to play in last weekend's challenge match against South Melbourne Hellas. In that much, I watched closely the performance of new Scottish recruit Gary McDowell and he'll be a great acquisition to coach Bobby McLachlan's struggling outfit. And former Canberra star Ian Purdie, seems set to hit top form.

McLachlan has made many changes to the squad he first took over late last year. I can see J.U.S.T. settling into a fairly formidable combination soon. It may be set for a good

run in the second half of the season, but I can't see it getting much joy from its visit to Newcastle.

Sydney City will find the workmanlike Adelaide City a handful at Sydney Athletic Field on Sunday but should have a touch too much class for the visitors. I've been impressed with Adelaide City's Joe Mullen-Peter Rankin striking duo and provided coach Bobby Ferguson can persevere with this relatively inexperienced pairing, he should reap a rich reward, if not in the immediate future, then almost certainly in coming seasons.

South Melbourne Hellas has lost just one out of 12 league meetings with Canberra and looks likely to maintain its dominance at Middle Park on Sunday.

New Canberra coach Atti Abonyi, will be looking to embark on his first NSL coaching experience on a sound footing but seems set for a disappointing baptism here.

The Jim' Hermiston-led Brisbane City can account for Heidelberg Alexander at Spencer Park, provided it can find a way past Charlie Yankos, whose recent Socceroo exploits have established him as the best sweeper prospect seen in national team ranks for years.

St George Budapest has too much class to go under the Ziemas Park against home side Wollongong on Sunday and West Adelaide Hellas should defeat Brisbane Lions at Hindmarsh Stadium, also on Sunday.

David Ratcliffe: a name Francis won't forget

By CRAIG MAC KENZIE

St. George and Socceroo defender, David Ratcliffe, has emerged from the three-match international series against England as one of the tough men of Australian soccer.

Ratcliffe's bone-crunching confrontation with England superstar Trevor Francis was the outstanding individual battle of the series, and not since the days of Manfred Schaefer or Col Bennett has Australia boasted a centre half with such fiercely aggressive qualities.

"If I simply had tried to match Francis' skill-wise, I wouldn't have lived with him. I played much more physically against him than I would in a club game but he should be used to that, playing in Italy. They play it tough over there," said Ratcliffe.

"I was determined not to stand off Francis and let him get his turns in. I let him know from the first few minutes of the first match that I was there. I wasn't going to be intimidated by his reputation."

Francis' legs bear the stamp of Ratcliffe's competitive attitude. Ratcliffe acknowledges that he was aided in his decision to commit himself to the tackle by having sweeper Charlie Yankos giving him good cover.

The performance of Ratcliffe in the series is amazing. He was used in all three games as a man marker, even though he hadn't played in such a role, either at club or international level, for almost two years.

"If I'm honest with myself I have to say that playing stopper probably is my best position. At St George I fit in better with the other players as a sweeper but with the national side it's shaping as if I'll be best suited to the stopper's role."

The responsibility of playing stopper isn't unusual for English-born Ratcliffe, who spent his playing career in his native country as a no-nonsense



The battle that lasted a week — David Ratcliffe (right) against England's Trevor Francis.

centre half. It was in the English Fourth Division that his aggressive qualities were nurtured.

Born in Dewsbury in Yorkshire, he joined Bradford City as a 16-year-old, serving a two-year apprenticeship before starting a three-year spell as a full time professional with Bradford.

It was under Bobby Kennedy's management that Ratcliffe broke into Bradford's first team, playing the first 22 games in one season before Kennedy was axed and replaced by John Napier, a move which ended Ratcliffe's prospects of making a name for himself in England.

When the Napier-led Bradford was forced, through financial pressure, to reduce its full-time playing staff from 28 to 16, Ratcliffe was one of the players sacked. Former Socceroo coach Brian Green arranged for Ratcliffe to join Brisbane City and in June, 1978, the defender arrived in Australia.

Ratcliffe played with Brisbane City until early in 1982 when he was transferred to St. George with team-mate Paul Wilkinson for a combined fee of \$33,000.

His three-year stay with Brisbane City was highlighted by winning the 1976 Phillips Cup, 2-1 against Adelaide City. For the most part, Brisbane



David Ratcliffe

bourne or Sydney. I wasn't playing any different up in Brisbane but you may have just one or two chances each season to impress the national coach and if you happen to have a bad day on one of these occasions, you have to wait till the next season to try to impress the people who matter.

Honestly speaking, it didn't do my chances of being picked to play against England any harm at all with Frank Arok getting the coaching job. Frank knows my capabilities as a player from looking after me at St George and he probably felt that I could do the job for him."

Arok and his Socceros were criticised for their defensive play against England over the three-match series, especially after the 0-0 draw in Sydney in front of 28,000 spectators. The criticism levelled at the players was totally unjustified. The only area open to criticism was Arok's choice between going for results rather than providing a great spectacle. Arok decided to try to get results against the English and organised his players accordingly.

"If we wanted results, then the way we played was the only option open to us. I don't think we were capable of matching England on a one-on-one basis. If we'd played with just four at the back, then one of the fullbacks would have had to come inside to mark one of their strikers. And don't forget, if people think that the Sydney game was bad to watch, why criticise only us? Why didn't England get more players forward? If we'd had a real go at them we may have lost about 12 or 13 goals over the three matches. What would we have achieved?"

Here, Ratcliffe has pinpointed the no-win situation in which the Socceros found themselves against the English. Make the game a spectacle by open up and get men forward and take England on and lose, then face the 10-fold you-so tale from the many knockers in the game here. Or go for results — and on that basis alone the 0-0 draw was outstanding — and get charged for being too cautious, ultra-defensive, and killing the entertainment value of the contest.

"George Potter was a great player. He used to sweep up behind me. I found it difficult to make the switch from being one of the lads one week to being player-coach the next."

Ratcliffe's move to the brighter soccer lights of Sydney has played a vital role in the recognition he has earned over the past year and a half. And having his club coach as boss of the national team for the England series also helped.

"You have more chance of being recognised in either Mel-

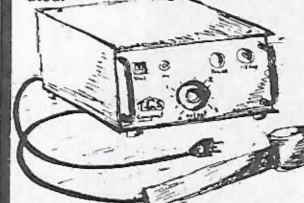
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AND NOW FOR THE WORLD CUP

Australia's two draws with England were magnificent results which will go down in the history books. A lot of observers saw the first game from a negative point of view, but they have to realise England is regarded as one of the best teams in the world, with such skill and ability that it must be treated with respect.

Most of all, we needed discipline against England, and we had it.

Each player had a role to carry out, and we all did so, with aggression and great team play.

Personally, I was proud to take the field against England in Sydney and to get a draw against them. It will remain one of the highlights of my soccer career.

The game in Brisbane was a different kettle of fish altogether. They came at us to score goals and with three up front and four in midfield, they overran us at times. The 1-0 result, however, was very respectable, considering all the ballyhoo by Bobby Robson, that they'd beat us by three or four.



KAT'S CORNER with PETER KATHOLOS

Before the series, he even said the English were a six-goal better team than us, and that they were 1000-1 on to win.

Talking to some of the English boys about soccer in general was quite interesting.

Trevor Francis is not only a class player but

also a real gentleman.

When I asked him to compare English soccer with Italy, where he played for Sampdoria, he was quick to point out that football on the continent is a lot different. He said: "In Italy you always receive the ball from the midfield players; never from defenders. And the midfielders

are given more time on the ball."

A lot of the players I talked to were very impressed by the Australian team. They hadn't expected battles as tough as this.

A loss in Sydney would have cost them their international credibility and after coming so close to losing that game, they went out to

thrash us in Brisbane — yet they were lucky to get one goal.

The players who spoke most highly about our soccer are John Barnes, Gordon Cowans, Steve Williams and Nigel Spink.

As for our own players, of the new guys in the side, I reckon that Charlie Yankos did a very good job as sweeper, Terry Greedy made some great saves in goal, and David Ratcliffe, although he's not new to the team, played Trevor Francis very well. Francis turns on a sixpence, yet Ratcliffe had control of him most of the time.

I was of course very disappointed to be dropped from the third game, in Melbourne, but these are the breaks in international soccer.

I'll just battle hard to get

back in the team, and I'm sure I'll do it.

Everyone expected us to be worn out by the third game, and to go under meekly to the English, who are much more accustomed to such a heavy match schedule.

But although England pressed very hard, we were able to hold them, thanks to Terry Greedy and Charlie Yankos in particular, and we had two great chances to score the winning goal.

What a performance by Phil O'Connor. Didn't he run the English defence ragged!

We lost a bit of respect by losing to New Zealand twice early this year. Now we have regained the public's respect, and we'll go on with it by qualifying for the 1986 World Cup in Mexico.

He wants to do a Zoff, and then...

During the England tour, Australian soccer fans had a rare opportunity to see live a player generally acknowledged as the world's No. 1 in his position.

Dassayez of the USSR and even Argentina's Filoli have their supporters, but most followers of world soccer would name Peter Shilton as, literally, top of his profession — the game's leading goalkeeper.

Shilton has not had an easy passage to the summit, acquiring the present standing through single-minded dedication bordering on an obsession to perfect his craft.

As a schoolboy, he worried about lacking height and undertook a series of stretching exercises which included hanging from a bar with weights attached to the feet.

Today, Shilton's arms are two inches longer than is normal for a man of his body size!

At the age of 10, he applied for a trial with Leicester City. Amused officials told him to call back in six years.

When that time came, Shilton had played for England Schools four times and a host of clubs, notably Arsenal and Manchester United, were equally keen to sign him.

Home-town club Leicester however was his first choice and he joined, despite the fact that legendary goalkeeper Gordon Banks formed a formidable barrier to regular first team football.

Shilton made his senior debut in a 3-0 win over Everton, as a 16-year-old when Banks was injured — but it seemed he was destined to be in the great man's shadow for many years to come.

It is a popular myth that Banks took the youngster under his wing. In actuality, he did not supervise any special training or pass on any particular advice, but Shilton did learn a great deal from watching him closely at training and in matches.

The understudy soon tired of reserve grade soccer and sought a move. Amazingly, Leicester manager Matt Gillies decided to keep the inexperienced youth and sell England's World Cup hero. Banks was signed by Stoke City for a comparatively paltry \$105,000.

Despite distinct animosity from Leicester's fans in the months immediately following Banks' departure, the successor eventually won their respect and acknowledgement as a player of immense talent after overcoming initial injury problems.

Certainly, nobody could doubt his hunger for success, always staying behind for extra training and analysing all facets of his performances after each game — writing reports and illustrating mistakes with diagrams.

Positional sense, sharp reflexes, good hands and judgement of crosses were refined meticulously.

Always his distribution was impeccable and he became one of the few goalkeepers to score direct from a punt upheld when netting against Southampton in October, 1987.

But Leicester, it became obvious, was not equal to meeting his expectations. Although it took him to the FA Cup final in 1989, Leicester



Shilton aims to coach England

By PAUL MOON

ter was relegated to Division Two in the same season. Shilton requested a transfer.

The English Midlands club however was determined to keep its best asset and for a further five years it appeared him with lucrative contracts and promises of better things.

In 1970 Shilton, already capped at youth and under-23 levels, made his senior international debut, facing East Germany.

When an eye injury terminated Gordon Banks' career two years later, his former deputy at Leicester was the obvious candidate to inherit the England gloves.

Shilton consolidated himself between the England posts until the fateful night of October 17, 1973, when Poland eliminated the Anglos from the World Cup by holding them to a 1-1 draw at Wembley.

The home team goalkeeper was widely held as being responsible for Jan Domarski's crucial goal — diving too late to block a miskick. Doubts were raised about his ability at the highest level.

Soon afterwards Ray Clemence became his coun-

try's preferred goalkeeper and for the next seven years it was he who usually guarded the goal in important matches.

So frustrated did Shilton become at being only second choice that he walked out on the England party on the eve of a Home International series, but was persuaded to return.

Little solace was found in club soccer. After some further wrangles with Leicester, it had, at last, allowed him to go, ironically to replace Banks at Stoke City, which paid \$680,000 — a British record for a goalkeeper.

At the time, Stoke had an excellent team, one which seemed poised to win major honours. But life at the Victoria ground quickly turned sour.

No fewer than five key players suffered fractured legs within a few months. Instead of appearing for a side vying for the First Division title, Shilton was Stoke's saviour as it successfully fought against relegation.

Worse followed — a financial crisis which resulted in the "Potters" selling all their best players.

Shilton was one of the last to go, joining Nottingham Forest for \$600,000 in July, 1977.

Today, Shilton refers to his stay at Stoke as "three wasted years." When first stepping into the County ground, few could have forecast a dramatic change in fortune.

Forest had just regained a place in Division One by claiming the third, and last, promotion spot.

Shilton was the cornerstone upon which manager Brian Clough built a team not merely content to preserve its status but to win the championship itself.

This it duly did. Forest led from the outset of the 1987-78 campaign and finished five points clear of Liverpool, conceding just 24 goals.

The Professional Footballers' Association gave testimony to Shilton's contribution by naming him as its "Player of the Year."

The following season, Forest became champion of Europe. Its goalkeeper had a quiet final, during which meek Malmoe was defeated 1-0, but a stunning save against Cologne, late in a dramatic semi-final second leg, thwarted the West Germans from grabbing a tie winning goal.

In the 1979-80 Champions' Cup decider, Shilton again defied Germany's banner carriers, proving impassable as the holders overcame Hamburg with the Match's only goal.

From this high, he ascended to a depressing low during the following season.

Forest's form slumped and Shilton, jaded after 15 years of almost non-stop football, declared himself unavailable for England duty.

Off the pitch, life was not running smoothly either. Marital problems, now happily resolved, were thrust under the spotlight by Britain's media.

In due course, Shilton regained his poise, confidence and England place. Ray Clemence's form had been patchy throughout 1981-82 and it was the Nottingham Forest man to whom Ron Greenwood turned for the Mundial.

Conceding just one goal in five games, Shilton was obviously one of the tournament's better goalkeepers — most argued the best.

Back home, further challenges were sought. Forest's continued mediocrity and the bad atmosphere which prevailed within the club decided him upon a change of environment and Southampton obliged with a \$700,000 transfer fee.

Shilton made an inauspicious start with the "Saints". Watford hit four past him only his second game. Tottenham followed with six and then Liverpool added five more, as the Hampshire club floundered at the bottom of the table.

Typically, he reacted to this latest crisis with grim resolve, throwing himself into an extensive training programme.

Soon the old Shilton re-emerged and performed heroically as Southampton surged up the ladder.

Shilton, 34 on September 18, has stated that his intention is to do a "Dino Zoff" and retire at 40. After that a career in management is envisaged. His ambition in this area is to guide the fortunes of England, no less.

And now, Wogs v. Krauts?

Ockerism is creeping into soccer, presumably under the guise of "promotion."

The matches against England was advertised "Aussies v. Poms."

While some people may think it's either funny or patriotic, I find it common, vulgar and offensive.

Why does the ASF or its advertising agency have to refer to England as "Poms"?

And where will that lead us? If one day the Germans, Italians or Egyptians come to play here, are we going to promote them as Krauts, Dagoes and Wogs?

— A. DETTIE



Soper kicked out of camp

Sydney Olympic striker Marshall Soper was banished from the Australian squad before the first match against England in Sydney.

Coach Frank Arkok sent Soper packing over breaches of discipline.

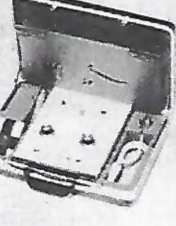
Apparently Soper went missing from the team's hotel for a long period without having told team officials.

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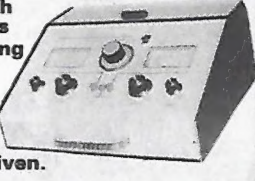
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• A pessimist, they say, is one who is better informed... Occasionally we are inclined to paint a realistic — that is, gloomy — picture of soccer's problems. Our critics claim that these essays often smack of negativism. We counter this by claiming — unsuccessfully, it seems — that we don't make the news, merely comment on it.

Still, we are trying to mend our ways. After having written some remarks about the Sydney international match, in the heat of the moment, so to say, we sat down, thought positive and rewrote the lot in a more cheerful and optimistic vein. So that our readers can see for themselves the improvement in our psyche, we submit both versions for their judgement.

By ANDREW DETTRE

In search of the brighter side of the coin

1. Fans owe a vote of thanks to Channel 7 for delaying the delayed telecast of the first international England.

The match would have been shown at 10.30 pm the same evening — after a long and tiring day with most viewers physically and mentally exhausted. The decision shows the almost incredible good taste of Channel 7 whose main concern remains the interest of soccer devotees and their welfare.

2. One cannot praise highly enough the quiet, subdued way the ASF has arranged the post-match conference in Sydney.

The pressmen were guided to an empty hall, away from the hustle and bustle of the crowd.

Clearly, the ASF is now following its established practice from a successful past.

This helped to create a family atmosphere, no doubt carefully worked out by various thoughtful ASF officials whose aim must be to stage a press conference without it having a rigid format.

3. At half-time, fans were entertained by the famous Parramatta Cow Girls.

Resplendent in their chic, sexy uniform proudly wearing the green and gold, the girls made their appearance by public demand.

Many English visitors must have been delighted with this display of Australian womanhood and the subtle promotion of our dairy products.

4. It was fitting that Tony Boskovic was handed the Sydney match to control, on the eve of his retirement.

He is our best referee and if he was good enough for two World Cups, surely he is good enough for the Poms, too.

Besides, importing a refereeing trio from overseas would have added greatly to the tour costs, cutting into the ASF's profits and could have led to accusations by the English party that the so-called neutral referee was leaning towards us, being grateful for the invitation.

5. Perhaps the most moving part of the international match came before the first kick. It was when our dignitaries walked on the field to meet the players.

We could see tears running down the faces of many battle-scarred internationals as they shook hands with almost everybody who was present.

In this field we are proudly leading the world: at a Wembley Cup final it's only the Royal couple who are introduced to the players — here we have no such tragic shortages.

6. What splendor of colors, what imaginative array of decorations the playing field had for the big match: white and blue (Greek?) zigzagging the pitch, eliminating the traditional dullness of green.

One can assume that the ASF wisely engaged the services of modern painter Victor Vasarely from Paris to draw the asymmetrical lines.

It's meticulous attention to such seemingly insignificant details which should make us humbly ask: do we really deserve the ever-caring administration we have?

1. Much to the annoyance of soccer fans, Sydney's Channel 7 handed out yet another snub to the game.

Bad as it was that the first England match from Sydney would have been shown late at night, 10.30 pm, they were stunned with the late news that the telecast would be delayed by more than two days.

2. Once again, as so often in the past, the ASF has botched the post-match press conference at the Sydney Cricket Ground.

The pressmen were herded to the corner of an abandoned bar, forced to take notes standing up.

It's amazing that the ASF — despite almost all their large number of officials, elected or self-appointed, being present at the ground — can't arrange a simple conference without sinking back into the ice age.

3. Fans at the SCG have threatened to throw up if they are subjected once more to the "entertainment" by the Parramatta Cow Girls at half-time.

These scantily dressed ladies in manure colors appear to be the only "promotional" idea soccer's bosses can produce.

Our English visitors must have been wondering what percentage of Australia's female population pursues a career in cowering or whether we have been attached, quietly, to the Lone Star State of Texas.

Surely, with promotion whizzkids now running the game, they can do a bit better than revive this tired old show for the public.

4. In better circles it is customary to invite a neutral referee for full FIFA international.

Tony Boskovic is still our top referee — but he is "ours". And that's the point.

With the English FA receiving an alleged fee of \$50,000 a match, not to mention other expenses, surely the ASF could have afforded to fly over a neutral referee from New Zealand and appease the English visitors who were somewhat irate about Tony's decisions.

5. We disagree with those who claim that the most boring part of the proceedings was the actual 90 minutes of match play.

It was the pre-match introductions.

Why some half a dozen officials have to march down on the pitch and shake hands with all the players, reserves and referees is a mystery. (Approximately a total of 228 handshakes).

Dens of full internationals, including European Cup and Championship matches are staged every year — without resorting to this old-fashioned nonsense.

6. Much to the bemusement of players and spectators, the SCG pitch was a cavalcade of lines: white for soccer and rugby, sort blue for Aussie rules.

The field looked like the blackboard of a demented algebra professor.

Surely it would not have taken too much effort or time to have the ground properly marked for soccer only, erasing the other confusing lines.

Or, perhaps, the ASF doesn't consider that details such as this are part of a promotional effort.

DAVIDSON, O'CONNOR BLOW CHANCES



Gordon Cowans



Alan Davidson



Ricky Rosso

AUSTRALIA 0, ENGLAND 1 (Paul Walsh, 57th). Venue: Lang Park. Crowd: About 16,000. Referee: Peter Rampley 8.

AUSTRALIA: Greedy 8, Davidson 9, Yankos 7, Ratcliffe 7, S. O'Connor 7, Jennings 7, Watson 5, Cant 5, Kosmina 6, Katholos 4, (Murphy 69th), S. O'Connor 7 (Mitchell 76th).

ENGLAND: Shilton 8, Neal 8, Statham (Williams 21st, 71), Barham 8, Osman 8, Butcher 7, Gregory 7, Francis 9, Walsh 8, Cowans 9, Barnes 6.

Australia's biggest losing margin in an international in Brisbane was 1-5 against England in 1925 — but the way the Socceroos played at Lang Park last Wednesday, coach Frank Arok obviously feared that record was in danger of being broken.

England, promising a feast of goals in the pre-match propaganda, started strongly and Francis almost scored when he ran onto a great ball from Russell Osman after only seven minutes. But a brave save from Terry Greedy, who dived headlong at Francis' feet, kept the scoresheet clean.

That near miss obviously frightened the Australians even more and they retracted further into their defensive shell.

With frontrunners John Kosmina and Terry Butcher about as much trouble as a pair of mosquitoes, England was able to push more players forward.

And when they lost fullback Derek Statham with an injured knee, after a wild Joe Watson tackle in the 21st minute, they didn't even bother replacing him positionally and let substitute Steve Williams run free in the midfield.

With four in the middle against Australia's three — and Katholos was doing nothing

anyway — England was always in control and under the superb directorship of Aston Villa's Gordon Cowans, began to swing the ball around in an attempt to drag the Socceroos' central defense wide.

They succeeded in doing that beautifully when Francis went onto the flank, taking Ratcliffe with him, then crossed beautifully to big Phil Neal.

Neal got to the ball and put his header past Greedy, but it was striker Phil O'Connor who did the defenders' job and headed off the line.

With the scores level at half-time, Australia would have shocked the Englishmen had they come out and attacked but once again the Socceroos played their waiting game.

And they only had to wait 12 minutes for England to score.

Mark Barham, who got through a lot of work, took the ball down the right flank and played a deep cross. The Australians tried three or four times to get the ball away. But never successfully, and with the ball bobbling on the rough Lang Park surface it was the nippy Walsh who turned a half chance into a goal and slotted the ball into the net from close range.

It was then that the Australians should have thrown caution to the wind and gone for a win or at least an entertaining loss, but the Australians stuck to their well-publicised plan.

Arok eventually made the right move by bringing Ken Murphy on for the hapless Katholos in the 69th minute, and Mitchell for Phil O'Connor shortly after. Mitchell looked particularly dangerous but had little time to exert his presence while Murphy made a few good runs but always tried to beat one man too many.

But England was too experienced to be hustled in the final minutes and took control by slowing everything down and walked its way to victory.

After the match Arok declared himself a proud man.

"There was little difference between the sides and we will be going flat out for a win in Melbourne. Everyone expected England to beat us by four or five goals but those days have gone by," he said.

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AUSTRALIA ENGLAND

TERRY GREEDY: Made a couple of acrobatic one-handed saves but was seldom put under sustained pressure.

ALAN DAVIDSON: Australia's best, he had the measure of winger John Barnes. Blotted his performance slightly by missing a goal in second half.

CHARLIE YANKOS: Occasionally slow on the turn and perhaps lacked heading dominance but a sound performance all the same.

STEVE O'CONNOR: Proved a little slow for the likes of Paul Walsh but seldom missed anything coming towards him and as usual was strong in the air.

DAVID RATCLIFFE: Marked Trevor Francis well but sometimes became too preoccupied with where the Englishman was and was drawn out of position.

GRAHAM JENNINGS: Wanted to attack down the left but had got limited opportunities. Seldom had anyone to mark and should have been used more by the Australians.

JOE WATSON: Seemed not to be up to it in the match, giving away too much of the ball. Improved in the end and made one or two good runs.

JIM CANT: Seemed not to know what to do with the ball when he got it and was sent on a merry middle chase by the England players.

PETER KATHOLOS: Disappointed after his excellent performance in Sydney, was not in the game this time.

JOHN KOSMINA: Beaten in the air regularly by Butcher and Osman and should have played deeper to receive the ball and use his skills to attack the central defenders.

PHIL O'CONNOR: Worked hard on both flanks but made little headway. Had a good chance in the first half but headed wide.

KEN MURPHY: Was a ball of energy when he came on but tried to do too much. Had passed sooner his work would have been more beneficial.

DAVID MITCHELL: From his showing when he came on, the youngster should have been in the starting line-up.

PETER SHILTON: Tested on only a handful of occasions and dealt with each situation with class and expertise.

PHIL NEAL: His professionalism shown throughout the game. Never did more than what he had to but was dangerous when coming forward, unlucky not to score.

DEREK STATHAM: On the park for only a short time before he left with a knee injury.

RUSSELL OSMAN: Anchored the England defence superbly. Made some great tackles but the feature of his game was his great distribution from the back. Set up Francis beautifully early on.

TERRY BUTCHER: Completely dominated Kosmina and won nearly everything in the air. It wasn't until Mitchell came on that he looked like being beaten.

JOHN GREGORY: A slow start but came on strongly in the second half and was a threatening player late in the game, also marking Katholos successfully.

TREVOR FRANCIS: Superb skills and turning. Always dangerous and rode some rough tackling. Undoubtedly the classiest on the park.

PAUL WALSH: Not only turned defenders but had the sense and ability to hold the ball up at times. One of England's best.

GORDON COWANS: Worked solidly throughout. Made some great runs and some even better passes. His curling corners put Australia under pressure every time.

JOHN BARNES: Beaten by Davidson and often seemed to be running nowhere.

STEVE WILLIAMS: Came on for Statham and given a much more attacking role. Didn't stand out but had a fair game, often supporting his team-mates well. Squandered a great opportunity late in the game when he blasted over the top.

MARK BARHAM: England's hardest worker. A constant ball of energy who blotted out Cant and Watson. His cross from the right led to England's goal.



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ALWAYS FIRST WITH THE BEST

TIM WHITE

Victorian coaching director

Memorable week with Greenwood

The phrase so often used by coaches regarding our great game: "The game is simple, its people who complicate it," has been attributed in many quarters to the former England and West Ham manager, Ron Greenwood.

Never has the true meaning of the phrase been brought home to me as emphatically as in recent weeks.

Greenwood spent a week in Melbourne and I, as State Director of Coaching, spent much of that time with him.

It is an experience I will always cherish and I certainly learned a lot about the game.

The key word in Ron Greenwood's approach to the game is "simplicity" and his commonsense approach is easy to understand and easy to implement. Of course one's knowledge of the game is a key factor when adopting his approach.

I was left with a lasting impression that anything else but a simple, confident approach

to teaching the game displays either a lack of knowledge or a lack of ability in the teaching art of the game.

In other words I am now more suspicious than I was before of the coaches who spent so much time expounding their theories to the detriment of their players, attempting to blind the players with science.

In adopting the simple approach, Ron Greenwood emphasised the need to approach the game practically.

In other words, work on the game on the park with your players and not on the blackboard.

Another phrase which was evident in his vocabulary was

"This game is all about does not about talkers."

It is no coincidence to me that the strong impression made by Watford's manager Graham Taylor on those of us who met him last year, was the way he too talked about the game in simple terms.

Paddy Crerand, former Manchester United and Scotland player, once said that when Bill Shankly and Jock Steins talked about the game, a six year old child would understand them.

The common factor among those people is of course their undoubted knowledge of the game and their ability to teach it.

Greenwood, accompanied by his charming wife Lucy, arrived in Melbourne on a late Friday afternoon and from then to the following Friday pursued a busy schedule to promote, teach and advise on all aspects of the game to many people from different walks of life.

His honesty in answering questions and his obvious knowledge of the game proved to be an interviewer's dream. He was a guest on the "Buffalo

Sports" programme in 3UZ Radio and Tony Dunkerley's very sensible questions coupled with superb replies got the week off to a flying start.

A "phone in" on ABC radio on Saturday morning and then off to VFL Park to be guest of Dr Aylett at the pre-match lunch. This visit was a good experience for Ron as it allowed him the opportunity not only to see a different sport but also to understand what soccer is competing with in gaining publicity and crowds.

As well as this, there was a very useful exchange of information not only by administrators but between the "two Ronnies" — Greenwood and Barassi. Ron Barassi's changing room was busy with a number of people allowed to view the preparation and Greenwood emphasised that he would have nobody in his changing rooms as he felt his players need to be calm and thoughtful.

The Aussie Rules footballers had the services of what they termed "mental skills" coach. The soccer manager has to

perform the tasks of influencing the players either calmly or otherwise himself. Greenwood emphasised after the visit that he felt regular exchanges of information between the various sports was healthy and could only be for the good of all involved.

Sunday morning he endured the rigours of the wood-chop and Lou Richards at Channel Seven's studios with panache and style.

Then off to a State League game at Green Gully to be greeted with superb hospitality. He left the lunch table at one stage and was engrossed in conversation for 20 mins with an excited bunch of 12 year old boys.

The simple approach was very much in evidence as he fitted comfortably into the company of the young players.

After the game it was into the home team's changing rooms and there he got himself so engrossed in a discussion on the game with the players that by the time he entered the away team's changing rooms they had already left.

A lecture at a theatre on Monday night was attended by

52 people who were mainly junior coaches and teachers and students from various colleges. Unfortunately very few senior coaches bothered to attend.

A practical session on Tuesday with the Victorians fourth team was attended by a few coaches. Similarly another practical session on Wednesday evening with the State squad plus some extra players, was enjoyed very much by the players but again the attendance of coaches was poor.

Despite difficult conditions at Olympic Park due to damage on the pitch from a Lacrosse tournament, Greenwood showed his versatility in providing a meaningful session for two hours on each occasion.

A very successful luncheon with NSL and State League coaches and the media was held on Friday before Greenwood's departure to Newcastle.

It was rather a pity that one of our leading coaches attempted to undermine this function by writing an article in this

newspaper which was completely out of context.

Ample opportunities were available for all coaches at any level, to meet Greenwood throughout the week to discuss the game and to see him work. It was I who arranged the luncheon not the A.S.F. and it was I who felt that the convivial surroundings at the luncheons would be a fitting climax to a great visit.

The luncheon was an enormous success and the said coach who did not attend because of a misguided principle was the one who missed another opportunity to learn a little bit more.

Greenwood's visit was a great success and many of us are all the better off for meeting him. His obvious passion and understanding of the game and its problems makes it all the easier for him to communicate with people at all levels and in all walks of life.

His programme was completed with a series of press conferences and meetings with U.S.F. officials as they probed his great knowledge of the game in an attempt to improve our administrations.

VIC TUTING: 62 years in soccer

PLESS: How has the playing side of the game changed since your day?

TUTING: In my day soccer was played just as a hobby. It was something we did on weekends, on a Saturday afternoon. In the early days, we used to actually recruit players, in Launceston, who came in on ships on Saturday morning. We'd go to the ship and see who played soccer and they'd be in the team that afternoon. There was not much organisation. There was an association but the organisation of the clubs was not similar to what it is today.

PLESS: With the new proposals for regionalisation of the national league it seems as if Tasmania has been omitted from the plans. How do you feel about that?

TUTING: This is a matter for any clubs that want to enter. It's a question of finance. I think you've got to remember that these clubs on the mainland that are in the National League now have to find \$300,000 to \$400,000 every season to be in that league. I think that's beyond any club in Tasmania, to find that sort of money. Not only that, but if you were in the National League, it's very doubtful if you would get sufficient numbers to attend your matches here to make it a viable proposition.

PLESS: What is the state of the game in Tasmania?

TUTING: There should be a genuine State League. Since the statewide league

• With ASF president Sir Arthur George in Mexico for the World Youth Cup finals, Vic Tuting, MBE, senior vice-president of the ASF and president of the Tasmanian Soccer Federation, became the flag bearer for Australian soccer during the England touring party's of three internationals against Australia.

Tuting has been involved with soccer, both as a player and administrator, for 62 years. His playing career began in the north of Tasmania in 1921 as captain of Launceston-based side, Invermay. He retired from playing in 1934 and turned his attention to administrative duties.

Here he is interviewed by our Tasmanian correspondent, Walter Pless, at the recent 73rd anniversary celebrations of the South Hobart club.

was dropped, the standard has deteriorated. When the State League was going, the standard was improving and the clubs were getting better players and coaches. The statewide league has to be reintroduced if senior football is to be improved. We're on the right lines with the junior programme, however, and that's been very successful.

PLESS: What about Australian soccer as a whole?

TUTING: Playing standards are improving at top level. The only way we can sustain this is to eventually have full-time professional players. The Institute of

Sport has been a wonderful thing. That's going to be a great catalyst as far as our international team is concerned. But, you've still got to get spectators through the turnstiles and that's not happening. Our promotions are pretty good these days. We spend a lot of money on promotions but, at the same time, we're not in the same league as, say, the VFL. That's mainly because of the media. If you take the media away from Australian Rules football and gave it the same coverage as soccer, then the situation would be reversed.

PLESS: Will Tasmania have another State Director of Coaching?

TUTING: I think we'll eventually have another one. We've got to put our own house in order first and get away from these parochial ideas that some people have, such as that the State Director of Coaching has to be under the thumb of somebody else. He hasn't. He's got to be on his own. He's got to do what he wants to do, providing he's doing his job. I'm sure we'd still have had a Director of Coaching if it hadn't been for the personality conflict that's going on. I think Steve Darby was very good, and so was Denis Ford for that matter, but then they clashed in terms of personality with other people in the game. Of course, they then fell by the wayside for the simple reason that they were new and the other people weren't. That's the reason for it.



Vic Tuting (seated, centre) in Shanghai with the Socceroos in 1979. Back, from left: interpreter, Sharn, Gokovic (massouri), Perry, Mullen, Russell, O'Connor, Rooney, Tamsay, J. Nyskohus, Crook, Jankovic, Henderson, (leaning forward) Middle level on left: Coyne (seated) Woodhouse, Prskalo, Bertagna, Boden (partly obscured). Front, seated, Gutendorf (coach), Tuting, Dr. Kennagga, Cumming, Cole.

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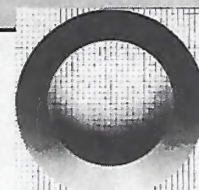
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Why David Mitchell missed out

Australian coach Frank Arok said he almost brought David Mitchell on as a third striker in the last 10 minutes, but changed his mind while Mitchell was warming up.

"I decided not to take any chances," he said. "I had considered taking off a midfielder, but none of them deserved that. They would have felt insulted."

Arok said goalkeeper Terry Greedy had been "fantastic," but added that all his players had given 100 per cent.

Asked whether he had been happy with Ken Murphy who was playing his first full game, he said: "He did everything I wanted him to. His job was the hardest, because he was coming into a set team, and I was extremely pleased with his effort."

He agreed that Graham Jennings had had his best game of the series, and this, he said, was due to the fact that he was given the required service to make possible his overlapping runs.

"Even in this third game, we were capable of maintaining our high level of commitment. That's been the basis of our success," he said.

"I'll bet anything that no-one thought we'd be capable of fighting these people in all departments the way we did — skill, tactics, knowledge etc."

"Of course I was worried during the first 15 minutes. It was important to get over the initial period, but then we settled down and we made some nice chances although England of course, made many more than we did."

"I told the players at half time to play the long ball to Phil O'Connor and he was brilliant. He left his job to play in this series, and you have to appreciate an attitude like that."

"Only Francis and Lee really worried us in this match. Lee was a source of regular supply, and in the first half, he was taking our people out of position. I told them at half time to hold their positions, and they did that."

"I also asked both full backs, and David Ratcliffe, to get forward more often because I felt that England would not track them down, and I was right."



Bobby Robson meets the Press.

Praise from Robson

England manager Bobby Robson praised Australia for its gallant performances during the series.

"They gave us three very hard, physical matches and they did very well to be able to maintain their pace and commitment," Robson said.

"We had most of the play, and we were always looking for victory, but we couldn't get that breakthrough."

"They had a flurry in the second half and that header by Ratcliffe was probably their best moment of the series."

"Davidson sparked off that flurry with some damaging runs."

He was pleased with the tour of Trevor Francis, and

Russell Osman and believes that John Gregory and Danny Thomas both have a big future in international soccer.

It took the tough Australians to bring the best out of Osman.

"Osman was our most fearsome defender in the match in Brisbane. It was the first time at international level that he did what we know he does all the time at Ipswich," Robson said.

"I never thought it would take him so long to come good, and I never expected him to show the timidity he showed in some other games. In fact, I squirmed in my seat a few times when I saw him play for England."

"But in Brisbane he gave us everything. He was very strong. He was mean but fair. That's what we want from him."



England at Olympic Park, from left: back row: Trevor Francis, Russell Osman, Peter Shilton, John Gregory, John Barnes, Nick Pickering, Front row: Phil Neal, Sammy Lee, Paul Walsh, Gordon Cowans, Terry Butcher.

Picture by BOB THOMAS

England dazzles, then Davo, O'Connor nit back

By LAURIE SCHWAB

AUSTRALIA 1 (Neal own goal 27th). ENGLAND 1 (Francis 25th.) at Olympic Park. Crowd about 20,000. Referee Jack Johnston (Tas.) 8. Cautions: Ratcliffe (Aust), Francis (Eng.)

ENGLAND: Greedy 10 — Yankos 9 — Davidson 9, Ratcliffe 8, S. O'Connor 8, Jennings 8 — Watson 8, Cant 8, Murphy 8 — Kosmina 8, P. O'Connor 9.

AUSTRALIA: Shilton 6 (Spink 6, half time) — Neal 6 (Thomas 8, half time) Butcher 8, Osman 8, Pickering 7 — Lee 9, Gregory 7, Cowans 9 — Francis 8, Walsh 7 (Blissett 69th), Barnes 8.

After threatening to grind Australia into the turf during a whirlwind opening, England was beaten back by the determined Socceroos who terrorised the opposing defence with the breakaway raids of Phil O'Connor.

Trevor Francis scored his first goal of the series but later missed a penalty, and Phil Neal had the unfortunate experience of scoring an own goal which deprived goalkeeper Peter Shilton of a British record.

Shilton hadn't conceded a goal in six matches. Seven would have given him that record.

England had 19 scoring attempts to Australia's five — including a penalty and a stirring shot by Barnes that hit the post — but goalkeeper Terry Greedy, the best player of the match, simply would not yield and for the first 15 minutes of the second half, Australia actually outplayed England.

Phil O'Connor, with a shot under pressure from Russell Osman, missed an open goal, and a header by David Ratcliffe flashed centimetres past the post.

Australia started with Ken Murphy in place of Peter Katholos, while England had brought in Nick Pickering for his first cap, in place of injured left back Derek Statham, plus Sammy Lee who had missed the match in Brisbane due to injury.

After half time, goalkeeper Spink also got his first England cap.

England is shooting machine-gun passes crossfield and to the flanks, fraying the nerves of the Australians who look flat and sore after two tough matches.

Phil Neal, having moved up the field, tries a short through ball for Trevor Francis but Murphy blocks it in his first touch in his first full international.

John Barnes, the athletic left winger, is leading Alan Davidson a merry chase in the early minutes. Davidson, suffering a groin injury but playing nevertheless, is having trouble keeping up with the speedy winger.

On a through ball from Gordon Cowans, Barnes dashes clear and slams a cross close to the Australian goal. Greedy makes a great save, palming the ball over the top.

Then Francis crosses from the right side and big Terry Butcher is there, having come forward from his centre back position. Butcher gets his head to it, but the ball ricochets off an Australian defender in front of him for a corner.

Davidson tries a long forward ball for Phil O'Connor. It goes over the forward's head, turning into a shot at goal, but Shilton catches it easily and sends England back into attack.

Paul Walsh is beaten by Yankos, but then England gets a free kick over a foul by Davidson on Barnes. Lee takes it and Walsh tries to turn onto it in the middle, but Steve O'Connor stands firm.

Still England surges forward as Barnes and Francis playing a one-two, but Greedy turns Barnes's cross over the top for a corner. Francis is in the box, waiting for that corner, and he spears a lethal header towards Greedy who saves one-handed, earning the applause of the crowd.

Walsh runs after a through ball but is beaten by Yankos, and Steve O'Connor heads away a Barnes cross for another corner. Greedy saves a shot from Francis who has been put through by Lee, and saves twice more from Walsh.

How long can Australia hold out? The pressure is unbearable.

It's the 15-minute mark now. David Ratcliffe, marking Francis as he had in Brisbane and Sydney, brings down the \$2-million man with a foul. Francis receives treatment, then gets into the box to wait for Cowans' free kick. It lands at his feet, he turns like lightning and whips his shot past Greedy to put England into the lead.

A brilliant goal, nothing less.

But such things do not deter Australia's best players — especially Yankos who takes matters into his own hands by surging forward with one of those powerful runs for which he had been waiting.

That run results in Watson getting the ball wide and crossing into the middle. John Kosmina, playing his 50th game for Australia, jumps very high but misses. The ball lands behind him for Phil O'Connor who tries a shot. Phil Neal tries to block it and in doing so, turns it past Shilton, into his own goal to level the scores. It's taken only two minutes for Australia to equalise!

Phil O'Connor now starts his greatest performance for Australia. He gets clear of Neal on the left and sends a great ball into the box for a header from Australian to run onto it. Certainly it has beaten the entire England defence.

Next, O'Connor offers himself for a through ball from Jim Cant, but Shilton darts to the edge of the area to gather it in before O'Connor can do damage.

Pickering, quite solid in his first international, picks up a clearance from Steve O'Connor and rams it low and hard through a sea of legs, just past the far post.

Davidson is coming into the game much more now. He clears with a powerful header, then shows his class in cutting out a header from Barnes, and with Neal eliminating the possibility of a back pass to Greedy, turns elegantly the other way to clear uphill.

Cowans brilliantly rides tackles from Watson and Davidson out on the left and gets the ball forward to Walsh whose shot is too high. Lee sends England forward once more but Davidson blocks Barnes and Yankos clears the ball as referee Jack Johnston blows the half-time whistle.

It's been a memorable half. Cowans, Butcher, Lee, Francis and Barnes have been outstanding for England, as have Greedy, Yankos, Phil O'Connor and Watson for Australia.

England manager Bobby Robson replaces Shilton with Nigel Spink and Neal — who shouldn't have played because of an injury — with Danny Thomas who did so well in Sydney.

Phil O'Connor gets into the fray immediately, but he's downed by Butcher who's having a fine game in England's defence.

Murphy gets clear to play the ball square into the box, but no-one's there to take advantage of it, and then O'Connor breaks away on a long ball from Ratcliffe.

Only Osman is there to challenge O'Connor who's going to the edge of the area on the right. Spink fears the worst. He comes out quickly towards O'Connor who, despite Osman's challenge, manages to get a shot at the empty goal. Unfortunately for Australia, it goes wide.

Full marks to Osman for his persistence. Robson had said the previous day that Osman put in his finest performance for England in the Brisbane match.

Australia has control now, although Thomas does manage a harmless shot which Greedy saves cleanly.

Again, O'Connor darts away but without support he cannot overcome their weight of numbers and eventually is dispossessed.

He does it again, however, a few minutes later and this time, after having beaten Thomas, he sees Kosmina coming through the middle. O'Connor sends the ball over, but Butcher clears before Kosmina can reach it.

It's England's turn now. Francis goes on a diagonal run across the defence and cuts the ball back to Walsh for a shot. It's Greedy in command once more. There's no way to beat this guy!

Now we savor one of the most memorable

moments of the match. Davidson, having come from right back to the left wing, is holding possession against a barrage of furious challenges. He's got four men around him, and still he's the master of the ball. Finally two of the Englishmen sandwich him and Davidson comes out of it with the free kick.

Osman saves England from a certain goal in the 58th minute. O'Connor has wriggled clear inside the penalty area and has turned for his shot from about 12 metres, after a forward ball from Ratcliffe. The goal is at O'Connor's mercy but Osman, with only one chance to avert disaster, manages a perfectly-timed challenge which stops the Australian striker.

Murphy and Watson play a one-two down the line, and the cross comes in, looking for Kosmina. Butcher stands in Kosmina's way and Spink comes out to catch the ball.

Osman concedes a corner as Watson hooks in a cross. It's Australia's first corner, and it's the 62-minute mark of the match. The corner is taken by Watson himself, and Ratcliffe, rising like a Boeing above the England defenders, sends a powerful header just wide of the post.

The crowd reacts by chanting "AUSTRALIA, AUSTRALIA!"

Graham Jennings, playing his best match of the series at left back, dispossesses Walsh with a back-heel challenge on the line, and the crowd erupts once more as Davidson goes on another memorable barging run through the middle of the field. He's run perhaps 30 metres before Osman finally stops him with an unfair tackle which results in a free kick.

We're seeing the very best of Davidson now. He sells Francis a dummy, turns and plays it out of defence. If Francis is worth \$2 million, how much is Davidson worth?

Yankos brings down Cowans on the flank and with the free kick, Cowans forces Greedy to punch clear under pressure. Barnes latches onto the rebound and slams a fantastic 30-metre drive against the crossbar. That so nearly was the winning goal.

In punching away that free kick, Greedy falls and requires treatment, but he's back on his feet, ready for more.

Robson decides he needs reinforcements to break down the Australian defence, so Luther Blissett comes on for Walsh in the 69th minute.

Greedy makes another strong reflex save, from Butcher who has connected with a corner kick. The Australian goalkeeper excels once more in coming out very far to catch the ball in front of Francis, and then he's fouled while punching clear a corner from Barnes.

Next, he pounces at the feet of Blissett, but he can see all his good work reduced to nothing as Kosmina pushes an opponent inside the area, and referee Johnston awards England a penalty.

Francis is the man who will take it.

He places it.

He shoots, and it's a good one, past Greedy who is given no chance.

But wait! Johnston orders Francis to take it again.

We are to learn later that Johnston told Francis not to shoot until given the signal. Francis had not heeded that command. No signal had been given by Johnston.

And so a decision greeted with much hostility by the crowd proves to be justified.

Francis has his chance to score with the second kick, but instead he blasts it over the bar!

The Australian players are thoroughly delighted, of course. So too are the Australian fans.

Francis figures prominently again in a free kick situation at the edge of the area. Cowans rolls the ball to him and Francis goes to his right, trying to skirt the wall and get into the clear, but Murphy follows him and wins the ball with a sliding tackle.

Jennings and O'Connor go down the line. O'Connor does more good work a few moments later, resulting in a shot by Murphy which is deflected for a corner.

At the other end, Greedy saves a low shot by Osman.

Australian coach Frank Arok is up on his feet, waiting for the final seconds to tick by. Davidson has the last word with a header that is saved by Spink, and it's all over.

It's a 1-1 draw and it's been one of the most exciting international matches yet played at Olympic Park.

Statistics

Once again, England dominated the match on statistics.

England had 19 scoring attempts to Australia's five and forced nine corners to two.

The scoring attempts were:

ENGLAND

Barnes — angled shot, saved by Greedy for corner.

Butcher — header, deflected for corner.

Pickering — low shot, wide.

Barnes — header, harmless.

Francis — header, saved one-handed by Greedy.

Francis — saved by Greedy.

Francis — goal.

Pickering — wide.

Walsh — too high.

Thomas — saved by Greedy.

Walsh — saved by Greedy.

Cowans — punched away by Greedy.

Barnes — 30-metre shot hits bar.

Francis — penalty, misses.

Butcher — header, saved by Greedy.

Cowans — long free kick, saved by Greedy.

Osman — saved low by Greedy.

AUSTRALIA

Davidson — long shot, taken by Shilton.

O'Connor — turned by Neal for own goal.

O'Connor — misses open goal.

Ratcliffe — header, just wide.

Davidson — header, saved by Spink.



England's John Barnes flies Alan Davidson (right). Pic



England captain Peter Shilton beats Trevor Francis in a heading duel.



Charlie Yankos (right) beats Trevor Francis in a heading duel.

THE ANDREW DETTRE COLUMN

HOW AROK STOLE ROBSON'S THUNDER

The ASF bargained for a caretaker coach for the England-series — and got itself a bonanza in the inimitable Frank Arok.

The way he generated publicity for the matches, handled the friendly or hostile media and stole the lime-light from Bobby Robson and his crew was quite brilliant.

In fact, for days before the matches just about all the publicity came through Arok. You could have been forgiven for thinking that it was his show, his promotion, his world-class visiting team.

Instead of knee-jerk reactions to provocative questions, Arok relies on his special brand of sardonic humor — of a devastating variety!

The day before the Sydney match a bunch of English pressmen surrounded him at training.

"Bobby Robson says they'll beat the Aussies by six goals," one of them said. "What's your reply to that?"

Arok almost genuflected in mock respect.

"If Mr Robson says they'll win by six, he must be right. He is, after all, a celebrated coach and he should know."

The day after the 0-0 draw — when the English Press blasted Robson's inept team — against a bunch of part-time dole queuers, teachers and window cleaners — Arok quietly took his team to watch the England training in Brisbane.

All hell broke loose. Robson protested about the "spying" and demanded the immediate departure of the Aussies from the ground.

"This is the greatest compliment I've ever received," Arok smiled, "not being allowed to watch England train."

Then he sent his team back to the motel — and returned, alone, to continue observing the England training.

In the evening the English pressmen were again at his door.

Robson says, "they said in a chorus, 'that you took your team there to spy on them'."

Arok opened his arms as if to hand out a few blessings.

"Gentlemen," he said, "I simply took my part-time dole queuers, teachers and window cleaners to watch the great England side train. I wanted them to learn."

"By the way, we train at 10 am tomorrow — and you're all invited, including Mr Robson and his players."

However, Arok is not all good humor at all times. He can be tougher than nails.

Still in Sydney, he was training his squad on the grassy side of the SCG when a bunch of strange players appeared, sauntered to the middle of the pitch and began to kick around a rugby ball.

"Can you find out who they are?" Arok said to manager Andrew Lederer. Within a minute Lederer was back. They are the Queensland Rugby Union team, he said.

"Have we got the ground booked to ourselves?" Arok asked.

"Yes."

"Then please get them off at once." And he did.

Few will realise that the Sydney match was in danger of not being played at all.

An hour or so before the kick-off Arok was given the match ball. He felt it a bit, bounced it, then returned it to the match officials.

"We're not playing with that ball," he told them. "It's unacceptable."

"But that's the only one we have," one of them lamented.

"Then there is no match," Arok snapped back.

Finally, of course, some compromise was reached. Other balls of the same brand were found which, more or less, satisfied the perfectionist Arok.

He was equally tough on Marshall Soper. On the morning of the Sydney match, he expelled him from the motel for "repeated breaches of discipline."

"You allow one player to break the rules and within hours you have anarchy," Arok explained.

Some of his critics — including insanely jealous fellow coaches — call Frank Arok a ways "ego-tripping."

Clearly, they don't know the man. This is precisely how he has been operating at the Saints, on and off, since 1969 — and producing quite stunning results.

As I said at the beginning, the ASF really hit the jackpot with him: an absolute professional plus what we keep saying the game needs — a personality.

What a pity that, with his brief commission now over, he is likely to retreat to his narrow club confines rather than play a leading role in our national affairs for which he is better qualified than anybody else.

WIN A SOCCER BALL



CAPTION CONTEST. Name the players, caption the picture and win a Mitre Soccerroo ball for the wittiest caption. Entries to: Editor, Soccer Action, 603-611 Little Lonsdale Street, Melbourne.



Old mates

Olle Norris (centre), the former Wilhelmina player and Footscray JUST coach, meets up again with two of his on-field opponents.

Norris played in England for Middlesbrough, while Bobby Robson (left) manager of England, played for Fulham, and former England manager Ron Greenwood (right) was with Chelsea.

Norris is the man to see for insurance. He's just joined the Lion insurance brokers.



Ken Murphy of SM-Hellas — first full international.

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n (left) hands left back
team shirt. It was Pick-



Trevor Francis plants his penalty past Terry Greedy, but he had to retake it, and the second time he missed.

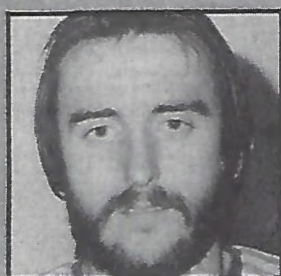
AMETCO ALL-STARS

Here is our Victorian State League all-star team after 13 rounds of this year's league season. The team has been selected solely on the basis of votes cast in our Ametco Travel Player of the Year award. In some instances, players have tied for third spot in their particular positions. In such cases, we have made our own judgement as to which player we think should win third spot. The numbers preceding player names denote votes polled:



11 — Sean
KEOGH
(Doveton)

8 — Lous Denys (Ajax)
5 — Tom Costello (Albion)



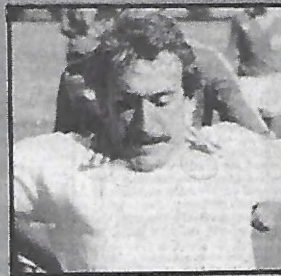
9 — Rick
LIPIARSKI
(Polonia)

7 — Peter Lewis (Ajax)
7 — Ian Roodhouse (Box Hill)



14 — Stefan
MILA
(Polonia)

12 — Chris Kalifatidis (Hellas)
9 — Steve Short (Ajax)



9 — Frank
MACLEOD
(Albion)

7 — Don Brownlie (Box Hill)
6 — Steve McCombe (Croydon)



12 — Harry
HIRD
(Juventus)

4 — Gary Hobson (Croydon)
4 — George Hannah (Croatia)



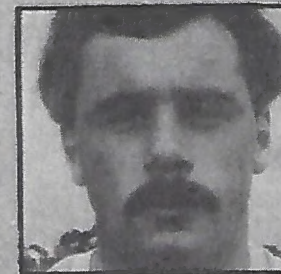
10 — Josip
BISKIC
(Croatia)

6 — Pedro Ramos (Box Hill)
5 — Mark Wilson (Northcote)



13 — Jim
MAC LEAN
(Morwell)

10 — Gerry Bennett (S.G. Cross)
7 — Jozo Antolovic (Croatia)



16 — Steve
MOORE
(Northcote)

9 — Kevin Lloyd (Juventus)
6 — Gerry Reilly (Albion)



12 — Tommy
CUMMING
(Croatia)

7 — Fab Icantalupo (Juventus)
7 — George Petrov (Polonia)



9 — Paul
LEWIS
(Ajax)

8 — Bruno Cozzella (Fawkner)
7 — Stan Webster (Doveton)



15 — Ian
TUFFIELD
(Fawkner)

7 — Peter Verechia (Box Hill)
4 — Joe Sweeney (Croydon)

● "Soccer Action" experts **RALE RASIC** and **ANDREW DETTRE** analyse Australia's achievements in the World Youth Championships in Mexico and conclude that although some weaknesses were evident, the young Socceroos deserve nothing but praise...

Leadership missing on the field

By **ANDREW DETTRE**

I think it would be a big mistake to under-value the results of the Young Socceroos in Mexico. And here, please note I use the word **results**, not **displays**.

A draw with hosts Mexico followed by a win over Scotland, the 1983 European Champions and then a narrow loss to South Korea must rank at least as meritorious as the results of the 1981 team — which was playing at home.

Then, as you may recall, we beat Argentina, then drew with England and Cameroon — this latter thanks to the most ludicrous penalty ever awarded in our favor, by that American-Armenian referee T. Kibritjian.

In the quarterfinals, we lost to West Germany 1-0, with Koussas blowing a penalty.

So our results this time were certainly no worse than in 1981 — when you consider the fact

that we played away from home, at high altitudes. However, the performance of the 1983 team seemed inferior.

Two years ago our weak spot was in goal, where Ahearn disappointed; the rest of the team was balanced, often classy and exciting.

This time the defensive pair of Vilettra and Maier proved to be our Achilles heel; they were notches behind the Blair-Crino duo.

And it's all so strange, really, that we should speak of defensive weaknesses when, traditionally, Australian international teams fail because of a poor attack.

Perhaps the biggest difference between the two teams was in leadership.

In 1981 we had a sparkling, explosive Peter Raskopoulos literally driving his team to unexpected heights; this time there was no such personality in the team as neither Patikas nor McCulloch seemed capable of playing such a role.

It must also be admitted frankly, in order to avoid any self-delusions that whatever luck we lacked in 1981 we collected this time around.

With an even bounce of the ball we could have lost to



Australian captain Ralf Maier (right) exchanges gifts with Paul McStay before the game against Scotland.

Mexico by three goals — yet it was 1-1.

There was no luck involved in the Scotland match — but, on chances created and missed, once again we could have gone down much more heavily to South Korea than the respectable 2-1.

True — Licata's late shot could have bounced in off the post; also true, we did play with 10 fit men for some 40 minutes in this game. These are hardly lucky breaks. But the Koreans could have led 3-0 and then 3-1 or even 4-1 had they been a trifle more accurate — or lucky.

Now, what about that controversial "10-gallant-men" angle?

Les Scheinflug has been criticised for sending in the allowed two substitutes too early — the second one at half time. And when Brown got hurt soon after the start of the second half, he was a virtual passenger.

Scheinflug must have known about the gambling nature of his move, prying that we

wouldn't suffer any injuries. We did.

He must have felt, at 0-2 down, that only some radical changes could save the game — so he gambled. Had it come off — as it almost did — he would have been a tactical genius and hero. Had he not made his early changes and we still had lost, he could have been lambasted for failing to act in a crisis.

Scheinflug was in a no-win situation; he had to take risks and hope for the best. And we will never know what the final score would have been with a fit Rod Brown.

But let's not be greedy. Despite some silly newspaper propaganda to the contrary, we did not go to Mexico as favorites. Being grouped with the hosts and Scotland, we could not reasonably have expected to get through to the quarterfinals.

It was an ironic twist that we could have made it — had we not failed to clear the hurdle, Korea, of which hardly anybody had talked about earlier.



RALE RASIC

Kids kept our soccer alive for two years

I was amazed by the criticism of our young Socceroos when they lost to South Korea in the World Youth Championships in Mexico. I don't think the public realises what it means to be included among the final 16 in an international competition.

The most prominent football nations in the world were represented in Mexico; Brazil, for example, and Argentina, Holland, Uruguay and Poland.

And it was no disgrace to lose to the Koreans, who proved a long time ago that they're no mugs.

What of the nations that didn't make it to Mexico — Italy, England, West Germany, Yugoslavia and France, for example? They didn't make it, but Australia did.

USSR, which won the youth cup in 1977, did not win a game in this tournament, and didn't qualify in 1981.

Now, before the Mexico series started, most of the media in Australia were talking more about how mighty Scotland was than about how far the Socceroos would go.

When we beat Scotland, the media made out we were equal to or better than anyone else, but when we lost to Korea, they said we weren't good enough. What kind of stupidity is that?

What everyone forgets is what our youth team means to Australian soccer and to the development of young players. Remember 1979, when such raw, inexperienced kids as Alan Davidson, Paul Kay, Eddie Krcevic, and others were sent off to Paraguay with best wishes?

Remember 1981 when we saw in 1981 such talented starters as Oscar Crino, Mark Koussas, Robert Wheatley, Steve Blair, Howard Tredinnick and Ian Hunter? And now we have another batch — David Lowe, Rod Brown, Frank Farina, Rene Licata, Fabio Incantalupo, who was there in 1981 as well.

That bunch of kids helped keep Australian soccer alive these past two years, since the senior Socceroos were eliminated from the World Cup by New Zealand.

Hundreds of thousands of people saw them perform on TV from Mexico — and many of them never had seen a soccer game in their lives.

Yet we read in the papers that these boys weren't even paid for their service to Australian soccer. It's nothing short of disgraceful, and it shows the hypocrisy of our system. Try telling the senior Socceroos that they're not being paid, and see what happens. But the kids are fair game. They're naive, wet behind the ears.

They deserve so much more. They did their jobs brilliantly, and their clubs — particularly Marconi — sacrificed a lot. All of them, plus of course coach Les Scheinflug and his assistant Raul Blanco deserve our deepest gratitude.

The team was in no way disgraced in Mexico. Sure, in the technical aspect of the game, we have a lot to learn, but not in the physical and moral aspects. In those we are ahead of the rest of the world at this level.

The goals of Incantalupo, Brown and Patikas, will live in our memories for a long time, as will that pass from Rizzotto which set up Patikas for the winner against Scotland. In Europe, they'd talk for three months about a goal like that.

Let me just repeat, that it is our youth products who are keeping our soccer alive — fellows like David Mitchell, Grant Lee, Steve Blair, Mark Koussas, Robert Wheatley, Alan Davidson, Peter Katholios, Paul Kay, Robbie Slater, Fabio Incantalupo, Oscar Crino — and what about Eddie Krcevic, who is playing First Division soccer in Yugoslavia? I am their greatest admirer.

Bravo Greenwood

What a pleasure it was to read the positive good sense of Ron Greenwood on recent TV commentaries.

It's more difficult to be positive than negative yet Greenwood pointed out only the good, even in situations that would be rubbished by lesser "experts."

We have so much to learn from him. On a personal note, I was pleased to hear his interpretation of what they call the "offside game."

Greenwood calls it pressuring your opponent, and forcing them into error. I liked that.



Les Scheinflug

Udinese wants Zico, China's best gets just \$3 a week!

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Italian club Udinese has offered Brazilian giant Flamengo, a staggering \$5 million for the transfer of world superstar Zico and the Brazilian ball wizard is set to make the switch.

Bye, bye Alfredo

By the time this goes into print the legendary Alfredo Di Stefano who helped Real Madrid to European Cup glory is expected to get the chop as its manager. For it's been a disastrous season for Real. It was pipped for the Spanish championship by Athletic Bilbao, it was beaten by Aberdeen in the European Cup-Winners Cup Final and lost the Spanish Cup to Barcelona.

With to Pisa?

Italian First Division club Pisa is expected to approach Aston Villa about England striker Peter Withe now that the Birmingham club has bought an 18 year old Swindon Town striker for around \$400,000.

Lacy joins Wood

Crystal Palace, which recently bought Arsenal's Scottish international keeper George Wood has now added long serving Spurs defender John Lacy who was on a free transfer.

Youngest boss

David Williams, 28, the former Welsh under-23 international midfielder who recently took charge of Bristol Rovers is the youngest player-manager in top British soccer. Williams has been with the club since he joined its Welsh nursery side at the age of 11.

Bang go boots

A Danish soccer player in Jutland got the shock of his life when he kicked the ball and his boots blew up! Experts who examined his footwear found that the soles had soaked up concentrated weedkiller from the grass and friction had made them explode.



Xiangfu who?

Meet China's top soccer player in a country of a billion people. A national hero in his cities, communes and paddies. Or, to put it another way, you could call him Xiangfu a legend in his own rice time. Not that the 26 year old Chinaman is in the Zico bracket. Xiangfu is paid the equivalent of \$3 a week! He's one of the privileged soccer players in China, owning his own bicycle, on which he pedaled to Peking's Workers' Stadium to play for the national team against touring English club Watford recently.

Meszoly quits

Hungary soccer manager Kalkman Meszoly, 41, resigned after the 3-1 European Championship defeat by Denmark.

On way back

Two of England's young stars who were forced to pull out of the summer tour to Australia re-suspending the close season nursing injuries and hoping to be fully fit for August. Ricky Hill, the Luton striker, will have a minor operation to rectify a calcification problem he has had in his calf muscle for five years, while Stoke winger Mark Chamberlain, with two hamstring and a twisted knee during last season, soon will be pounding the road to get in shape for the new season.

Wrong venue

An Irishman, Tom Senion, from Redditch near Worcester, organised a coach trip for 45 of his mates to travel to London to see the home international between the Northern Ireland and England. But Tom got mixed up with the venue — the game was played in Belfast and his party ended up paying \$100 in a posh London hotel to watch the game on T.V.

From **JIM COOK** our European correspondent

Eder fined

Brazilian World Cup winger, Eder, copped a \$4000 fine from his club Atletico Mineiro after being sent off in a cup-tie then later being involved in a fight at a training session. But, as Eder recently signed a new \$15,000 a month contract with his club, the fine is peanuts to him.

Proud Paisley

Bob Paisley, 64, won the Ball's Whisky Manager of the Year for the sixth time in eight seasons and collected his prize plus a cheque for \$10,000 at the Cafe Royal in London. Paisley said in a speech: "You may have found me mean and thirsty in my search for trophies but the bad news is that the man taking my place (Joe Fagan) is hungrier, so watch out!"

Revie back?

Don Revie, who quit his England post halfway through a tour six years ago in virtual disgrace to take over as coach of United Arab Emirates, is reported to be returning to England. Conflicting reports suggest that Revie who copped a 10 year F.A. ban for his "desertion" has been sacked from his post as club coach to Al Nasr while other sources say he quit after being offered a new contract and refusing to sign.

Rich Roberto

Roberto Bettiga, the Juventus and 42-times capped Italian International who joined Toronto Blizzard after the European Cup Final against Hamburg, netted around \$500,000 when he signed for the Canadian side in lieu of the free transfer Juventus graciously gave him. The 33 year old Bettiga, in addition to his soccer wages and perks, has been hosting his own T.V. chat show.

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Mrs Tenace, President of the Ladies Committee, Thanks all for the support received at the club' social functions and invites all young people to join and support 'CLUB JUVENTINI', the youth club really going places.

Contact Joe Mirabella on 380 9614 and he will tell you all about it.

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I PROBLEMI DELLA NAZIONALE E DEL CALCIO AUSTRALIANI

Mentre le squadre della lega statale tirano il fiato e si luccano le tante ferite (fisiche e non) la nazionale australiana ha partecipato ad un interessante triangolare con l'Inghilterra (Sydney, Brisbane e Melbourne) uscendone come incrinata morale.

I due pareggi e la vittoria di stretta misura a Brisbane, viziata per di più dal fatto che la palla era già uscita fuori la linea di fondo prima di essere messa in rete, non hanno certo costituito un risultato prevedibile per l'Inghilterra contro i "coloniali" dell'Australia.

Gli inglesi potrebbero anche

VIVA ITALIA!

with ROCKY DI ZIO



apportare le scuse di una formazione B, del lungo viaggio, di condizioni locali e via di seguito; ma sarebbero soltanto scuse perché non era necessaria la nazionale A per battere l'Australia: qualsiasi giocatore professionista di prima divisione inglese dovrebbe essere superiore ai nostri giocatori "part-time" che per di più, in certi casi, non sono altro che i "rituffi" delle divisioni minori inglesi.

Quindi il risultato ottenuto dall'Australia è eccezionale sotto tutti i punti di vista, specialmente considerando che i giocatori inglesi promossi a nazionale per l'occasione erano intenzionati a mettere una seria ipotesi su un posto permanente nella stessa nazionale.

Spiegare la metamorfosi del calcio australiano che è passato da magre figure contro la Nuova Zelanda ad una prestazione eccezionale contro l'Inghilterra sarebbe molto difficile e soggettivo. Però è ovvio che l'allenatore supplente Arok, coadiuvato anche se in modo relativo da Tony Boggi, deve aver molto merito in questo capovolgimento di rendimento della nazionale "aussie".

Innanzitutto Arok è stato chiaro nelle condizioni che esigeva per accettare il posto: nessuna interferenza, nessun trapiedi, nessuna imposizione dai "laici" della federazione,

Non avendo una carriera "da difendere in seno alla federazione Arok ha potuto chiedere tanto e metterlo in atto alla lettera. Egli ha quindi proceduto a selezionare i giocatori in forma per i ruoli e per gli schemi che lui voleva. E così finalmente abbiamo potuto vedere in azione con la nazionale come "titolare" il giovane Charlie Yankos dell'Heidelberg che è stato uno dei migliori australiani, e il giovane portiere Greedy che è stato il miglior giocatore dell'intero torneo. Peccato che

Arok non abbia avuto il coraggio, o l'avvedutezza, di sbarazzarsi anche della "vacca sacra" Kosmina che, almeno nella partita di Melbourne che abbiamo vista, è stato il più inutile degli australiani.

Noi non riusciamo a capire cosa vedano tanti in Kosmina; non ha visione di gioco, non ha il senso degli spazi e dello smarcamento, non ha prontezza di tiro, non ha velocità.

Tanto vale allora che mettano anche Graham French, della Juventus, innanzitutto poiché i due si assomigliano moltissimo calcisticamente. Vada per il fatto che è un giocatore "forte" che tiene occupata la difesa, ma noi pensiamo che questa è l'ultima qualità che dovrebbe chiedersi da una "punta" e vale solo quando essa ha compagni di squadra che sappiano approfittare della situazione. Con Kosmina domenica c'era solo Phil O'Connor in avanti e nessuno dei centrocampisti si avventurava in zona di tiro. Perciò, perché avere un giocatore del genere a mantenere una difesa che nessuno cercava di infilare? Ci sarebbe piaciuto invece vedere in azione con la nazionale quel Marshall Soper che ha brio, inventiva, velocità, imprevedibilità e prontezza di tiro.

Il guaio di tutta la faccenda è che adesso è tornato l'allenatore titolare Schienflug (dopo l'insuccesso "personale" in Messico) e le cose cambieranno: la nazionale di Arok sarà sciolta ed una nuova nazionale verrà messa in "gestazione" per la serie finale della Coppa del Mondo del 1983 con l'immissione di diversi elementi della nazionale giovanile reduce dal Messico.

Qui adesso esageriamo a favore dei giovani. Non vediamo perché una nazionale che ha colto il migliore risultato nella storia del calcio australiano (considerando la consistenza provata in tre incontri) debba essere immessi gradualmente durante i pros-

simi tre anni in modo che la nazionale andasse attraverso un processo di affinamento e di ringiovanimento, piuttosto di essere ricostruita artificialmente. Se ci tengono tanto a promuovere i giovani, ben farebbero a pagarli per la trasferta in Messico, invece di volerli bruciare in un torneo mondiale alla fine dell'anno con smaltizzati professionisti della Polonia, dell'Uruguay e via di seguito. I ragazzi del Messico, anche se sono stati estraneamente più bravi, in campi diversi, dal loro allenatore, non hanno alcun diritto "divino" di essere promossi a nazionale senior. La promozione se la debbono guadagnare, se la debbono sudare, deve essere per loro l'incitativo di migliorare e non di riposare sugli allori.

Ovvio che fra i "giovani" promossi d'ufficio da Schienflug, non ci sarà sicuramente Fabio Incantalupo che ha la sola colpa di giocare in Victoria e che, sicuramente per lo stesso motivo, è stato così scandalosamente sostituito in Messico quando alla televisione locale Tommy Docherty, la vecchia volpe del calcio inglese, lo caricava di elogi.

Staremo a vedere quello che Schienflug, che sfortunatamente non si trova nella stessa posizione di Arok per chiedere ed ottenere indipendenza dai trapiedi della federazione, riuscirà a fare.

I CAMPANILI NON SONO UNA PREROGATIVA ITALIANA

La federazione calcio del Victoria ha discusso, e bocciato severamente, la proposta della N.S.L. di regionalizzare la massima divisione del calcio nazionale.

Parlavo con alcuni dei massimi responsabili del calcio nel Victoria che, bontà loro chiedevano il mio parere sulla faccenda. Modestamente io diedi, dicendo che l'unica alternativa per il calcio in questo continente era di migliorare il livello dello sport accentrando tutte le nostre risorse all'apice, come è stato fatto con tanto successo in Nord America, piuttosto che diluire in tante leghe e divisioni. Il mio principale interlocutore mi chiese allora "Si va bene, ma chi controllerà questa competizione?"

Il problema del calcio locale è tutto sintetizzato in questa domanda. Chi comanderà, chi sarà presidente, chi si metterà più in mostra? Sarà la V.S.F. sarà la A.S.F., sarà la N.S.L. e, quindi, i vari caporioni che fanno capo ad ognuna di esse?

Abbiamo una situazione in cui sono state erette fratte intorno ai vari campanili, in cui un gruppo cerca di suonare le

proprie trombe e l'altro risponde con le proprie campane, in cui si è dimenticato che lo sport del calcio è uno solo e che quello che conta è "quanta gente" viene attirata allo stadio dallo spettacolo e non di quanti papaveri fanno "sfilate in passerella" o inutili discorsi.

Il pubblico sta sempre più abbandonando gli stadi, perché lo spettacolo è venuto a mancare. Anche le squadre della massima divisione giocano un calcio che non fa né caldo né freddo, perché non hanno i mezzi di mettere assieme squadre che attirino le folle. I mezzi vengono rosciati dalle tante squadre e squadrette che operano nei nostri campionati.

E' proprio il caso di dire che sulla scena calcistica australiana c'è una classe dirigente che assomiglia a un "Nerone che suona l'arpa mentre Roma brucia".

BENE LE ITALIANE "MINORI"

Con la lega statale ferma la settimana scorsa, l'attenzione dell'osservatore di cose calcistiche si rivolge alle leghe minori dove quasi tutte le italiane hanno colto buoni risultati.

La scena più interessante è però ovviamente nella prima divisione della Lega Provisionale, dove E. Brunswick e Buleen hanno approfittato di una mezza battuta d'arresto della capitolata Yarraville, raggiungendola al comando del girone. Tutte due le squadre italiane hanno vinto bene, ma specialmente il Buleen che ha rifilato un secco 3-1 al Ballarat (fuori casa per di più) con ben quattro reti del sedicenne Mikoudakis.

Nella quarta divisione della stessa lega una spettacolare vittoria dell'East Carlton che è andato a battere il quotatissimo Port United con un secco 4-2. Nonostante la vittoria i ragazzi italiani sono ancora in penultima posizione, ma hanno ormai un morale alle stelle ed una maggior fiducia nei propri mezzi. Una disposizione molto importante che dovrebbe rendere il resto del campionato più soddisfacente di quanto non lo sia stato finora ad ora.

Il Thomastown ha colto un pareggio contro l'Heidelberg ed ancora stenta ad ingranare la marcia di cui è famosa. Il tempo c'è ancora, ma sta passando abbastanza velocemente e c'è da augurarsi che l'innesto di Tony Mainenti a ceano campo sia una spinta sufficiente per rimettere in corsa i "diavoli" rossoneri.

Altro pareggio è toccato alla Triestina che ha tutte le prerogative di tornare a brillare di miglior luce.

Buona vittoria del Regent per 2-0 e meritato il pareggio del Dallas per 0-0.

Mainenti testimonial

Questa sera, mercoledì, sul campo di casa, il Fawkner giocherà una partita per onorare il suo figlio più caro, quel Tony Mainenti che ha speso i quindici anni migliori della sua vita con il club, contribuendo a portarlo alla vecchia "Sunday League" alla State League.

Squadra avversaria per l'occasione sarà l'Heidelberg United della N.S.L. A parte l'interesse della partita in se stessa, c'è da augurarsi che tutti i tifosi del Fawkner e tutti gli sportivi italiani vi partecipino come spettatori per rendere omaggio ad un



Tony Mainenti grande giocatore ed uno sportivo esemplare che ha fatto dell'attaccamento ai colori una ragione di vita. La partita avrà inizio alle ore 6.00 p.m.



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The ASF broke new ground in media relations by inviting representatives of the foreign-language media to the World Youth Championships in Mexico. Elias Dounoudis of "Nea Kefiros" is pictured in Mexico with Australian coach Les Scheinflug (right) and his assistant Ral Blanco.



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'82	4-1



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(Marconi)



IAN GIBSON
(Canberra Arrows)

**SOUTH
MELBOURNE
v CANBERRA
ARROWS**

MIDDLE PARK

K.O. 3 pm

'77	1-1
'78	0-0
'79	1-1
'80	1-0
'81	1-0
'82	1-1



CHARLIE EGAN
(South)